

We are going to have a debate. One of the principal participants in that debate will be the Presiding Officer, who was an insurance commissioner of the third or fourth largest State in United States. He certainly has had a view that a lot of us haven't had as to what insurance is all about. We look forward to the debate with the Senator from Florida, and the debate generally. I hope it is as constructive as the debate was on the estate tax. It was a good debate over the last 2 days. When we have debates like that, it makes this body look good. I think people look not at the result as much as how we are treating each other. Senators, we should be happy. I am happy with the result we had with the estate tax. But the debate was good. People had a chance to voice their opinions. I hope we do just as well on this important legislation on terrorism insurance.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut.

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I thank the distinguished majority whip, Senator REID, for propounding the unanimous consent request. I thank the distinguished Republican leader for agreeing to allow this to go forward, and my colleague from Texas, and colleague from Kentucky, who have had a long-standing interest in the subject matter, as many Members have, including the Presiding Officer. And other Members have come to me over time with various ideas and proposals to be included as part of the terrorism insurance package.

Let me say my good friend from Mississippi, the Republican leader, raised the issue about where we were. He is right. There was a time not so long ago—about 8 or 9 months ago—when we sat down and innocently thought that three or four Members sitting together could write something and then come to the floor, and people would say, You have done a lot of work, go ahead. As oftentimes happens, it is not unique. We thought we had put something together. We came to the floor and discovered that there were 97 other Members who had some ideas—not all 97 but a good many had other thoughts about which they felt strongly.

I don't regret the effort that my colleague from Texas and I made with Senator SARBANES of Maryland. Senator SCHUMER was involved I think to some degree in all of that, and others as well. We made a good faith effort. We thought it would work. It didn't.

December 20, I think, was the date when there was a unanimous consent request to bring the matter up. There was an objection expressed at that time. From then on, we have tried all sorts of ideas and variations that would get us to a unanimous consent where we would have a limited number of amendments to be brought up to try to focus on this bill. None of that worked.

We are now in a situation where we had a rule XIV on the bill on June 7, and this evening we avoided a cloture

motion, for which I am grateful. That would have delayed consideration of this bill.

I am not going to debate the merits or demerits of the bill tonight. I see my colleague from Maryland, the chairman of the committee, is here. He may want to be heard on this as well.

But this is an important bill. It isn't because I think it is. It is important because you hear from almost every major metropolitan area in the country now that is feeling the real pinch of a slowdown as a result of the inability and an unwillingness, for obvious reasons, of banks to lend money to major real estate and construction projects without those projects having insurance on terrorism.

In the absence of getting that, which the industry is unwilling to write because they cannot figure out how to cost all of this—that is understandable as well from the business standpoint—a lot of these projects are not moving. Jobs are being lost, and the economy is feeling the effects of it.

That is a shorthand version of what is going on. It hasn't reached such proportion yet that it would stop any kind of economic growth. But it certainly, by every estimation, is having a negative impact on our economic recovery.

Now we have put together the proposal. I know there will be amendments offered. My hope is they will be relevant amendments so they don't use this vehicle to bring up all sorts of extraneous matters.

We will try to limit the debate to some degree on the bill we are proposing and the one which I suspect will finally be adopted. Even if some amendments are accepted, it will be substantially different from what the other body proposed.

Even if we complete our work here, there is a monumental amount of work to be done to reach agreement with the other body. If we hope to get that completed at some point between now and over the August break—I hope earlier—we are going to have to finish this bill fairly quickly.

I urge Members who have an interest to come over and be heard. If you can limit your time so we can have a good debate—I hope no one intends to filibuster on this bill. That would certainly be unwise, in my view.

We will try to produce a product that will get us to conference and further refinement, and resolve the issues so we can send it to the President of the United States for his signature; and, sort of cut this Gordian knot that sits out there as a real choke point, if you will, in the economic flow of our country. That is what this is at this point.

I thank again my colleagues for not objecting to the unanimous consent request that we go to this bill. That is a good sign. I know there is still a lot of difference. But I take that as an omen that we at least can bring up this matter and try to resolve these differences. I look forward to the debate tomorrow. I believe we will be here at 10 o'clock

tomorrow to start debate on bill, and make opening statements, if they need to be made, and then engage in, hopefully, a healthy but brief debate and discussion on this important matter.

I see my colleague from Maryland here who may want to express some thoughts.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, I will be very brief. I join my very able colleague from Connecticut in underscoring the importance of this legislation and the problem with which it seeks to deal. It is one that we have been wrestling with for a number of months.

I particularly commend the able Senator from Connecticut for his leadership on this issue. He has been indefatigable in focusing our attention on this matter and repeatedly insisting that we have to come to terms with this issue.

I am pleased that we are now going to be able to actually move tomorrow to the legislation and begin this important debate. I will defer my comments on the substance of this legislation until tomorrow, until that debate begins.

But Senator DODD has played a major role, an instrumental role, throughout and, obviously, has played a large part in bringing us to the point at which we are now, which offers us now the opportunity to finally address this issue.

I understand, under the consent agreement, it is a wide open consideration that lies ahead of us. I would urge my colleagues of the necessity to show some restraint as we try to do that because we are under, obviously, some very significant time pressures.

But I look forward to that debate and the opportunity to try to address this issue on its substance. We have heard, of course, a great deal from across the country about this matter.

I simply want to echo the able Senator from Connecticut in saying that I hope we can consider this matter in a very positive and constructive way. I know Members have different ideas on how we ought to go about it. We hope to be able to consider those in a reasonable and proper way and reach some conclusion, hopefully, in the near future.

I thank the Chair and I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kansas.

MARTIN AND GRACIA BURNHAM

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I rise today to discuss a sad and incredibly important situation that happened last week involving citizens from my State.

The war on terrorism claimed another victim.

This past week brought about the sorrowful conclusion to a long and harrowing ordeal for three inspiring people, two of whom are from my home

state of Kansas. Gracia and Martin Burnham, and their fellow hostage, Filipino nurse Ediborah Yap, had endured more than a year in captivity at the brutal hands of the terrorist group *Abu Sayyaf* that has had links to the *al-Qaida* organization.

We all know the news reports, some of them almost by heart, of the attempted rescue by the Filipino military, who, based on the details that I have, demonstrated heroism and bravery in the encounter. And the heart-rending deaths of Martin and Ediborah and the wounding of Gracia. But today I want to remind all of us that while this may have been the end of their ordeal, it is not the end of their struggle, nor of ours.

The poet John Donne once wrote, "No man is an island, entire of it self; any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in Mankind; and therefore never send to know for whom the bells tolls; it tolls for thee."

September 11 was a wakeup call, but the bell still tolls. We must not let it go unanswered.

Some people have proclaimed that terrorism is simply a symptom of poverty and despair. That it is, if you can believe this, the logical response to a life of misery. I have one question then: Why kill those who are there to alleviate poverty, to lift despair, and to eliminate misery?

Terrorism is not a symptom of poverty, despair and misery. It is a cause. It is the root cause. These men and women do not just attack the concept of freedom and freedom-loving people everywhere, they terrorize their own people, they ravage their own country.

That is not logic, that is not strategy; that is evil. Yet, in the face of evil, people such as the Burnhams do not flinch. They have never flinched. When the governments have left, the missionaries are there. When the NGOs have left, the missionaries are there. When the charitable organizations have left, the missionaries are there.

There are some goals too great, some missions really just too precious, and so the missionaries are there. They keep going. They are always there. And they accept the sacrifices of their work in order to stay true to their calling. Even Gracia Burnham, on the day she arrived home to her children and her friends and family, seeing them for the first time in over 375 days, forcefully said, "A very bad thing happened to Martin and I when we were taken hostage, but we want everyone to know that God was good to us every single day of our captivity."

It is a statement emblematic of the strength, courage and, most of all, faith of both of them, and of all missionaries worldwide, who every day risk their lives to help others. In fact, the Burnham's story started out much like many others.

Martin first arrived in the Philippines in 1969 with his missionary parents. He returned to the United States after high school, met Gracia, grad-

uated from Calvary Bible College and the Wichita Aviation Education Center, and then completed the New Tribes Mission training program, the New Tribes group out of Florida. Not surprisingly, he and Gracia then returned to the Philippines, remaining there ever since. In fact, their three children, Jeff, Mindy, and Zach, were all born in the Philippines.

And then, on May 27, 2001, while celebrating their 18th wedding anniversary, they were kidnapped.

It was not the marker of celebration they wanted—that of their love for each other and for God—but rather that of the beginning of this incredible, horrible journey.

The blame for the year of suffering that Martin, Gracia, and Ediborah Yap endured rests squarely upon the shoulders of the terrorist Abu Sayyaf Group. They were offered peaceful means to resolve this situation, multiple peaceful options. Yet this group insisted upon terror, murder, and rampage. They attacked Americans, and they attacked their own people. And they never hesitated to kill without compunction, without compassion, and without logic. Executing several prisoners, including another American that was taken hostage at the time as the Burnhams. Guillermo Sabero, a Californian, was beheaded by this same Abu Sayyaf Group.

Terrorists must understand every single U.S. citizen is important, that an attack on an American anywhere in the world is an attack on America itself.

Most of all, though, terrorists must understand—must be made to understand—that terrorism is never justifiable. Wanton violence that harms blameless men, women and children, unpredictable violence that strikes fear into innocent hearts and minds is not, and never will be justifiable.

As Philippines President Gloria Arroyo said, "The fight against terrorism is our fight. It is the fight of all of mankind against evil."

The bell tolls for all of us. Duty beckons all of us.

And the call is simple. We must continue to support the effort to eradicate the Abu Sayyaf Group and other terrorist organizations that threaten the security of the Philippines and other peaceful nations.

Already, U.S. assistance to the Philippines has produced results. Civil action and humanitarian projects are improving living conditions, and specialized training has resulted in a more capable military. Even Gracia Burnham noted, "We especially want to thank the military men, the Filipinos and the Americans, who risk, and even gave their lives, in order to rescue us."

As seen by this rescue, the Abu Sayyaf Group is on the run, but it needs to be completely eliminated as a threat. I personally will continue to encourage any U.S. support requested by the Philippine Government to assist them in their fight against ter-

rorism and its causes, and to urge my colleagues to do so as well. After all, the struggle is not over, only this ordeal.

Just this morning, elements of the AFP, the Filipino military, were involved in a fierce battle with a group that calls itself the Pentagon. It is a splinter group from the Moro Islamic Liberation Front. This group has held a south Korean businessman captive since February 6, 2001. While defending their country from the scourge of terrorism, two Filipino soldiers were killed, and nine members of this extremist organization died. That was in this most recent firefight. More deaths, and for what?

Let me be clear. The deplorable actions of the Abu Sayyaf Group caused the deaths of Martin, Ediborah, and Guillermo. Let there be no equivocation on this point, the Abu Sayyaf Group is criminally culpable and must be brought to justice.

As we all know, terror begets terror, but justice produces justice. And a nation founded upon the rule of law has a special responsibility to share and enforce that vision.

This Friday, the Burnham family will be holding a memorial service for Martin, not to mourn, but to celebrate his life. Today, I ask all of us to do so, to celebrate Martin, to remember his family, and to recall our shared duty to "provide for the common Defense" and to "define and punish . . . Offenses against the Law of Nations."

These may seem to be the worst of times, but, like the Burnhams, we are a strong, resilient, and, most of all, hopeful people, and we will prevail.

As it says in the Beatitudes:

Blessed are the merciful, For they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, For they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemaker, For they shall be called sons of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake,

For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

God bless you, Martin Burnham.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate now proceed to a period of morning business with Senators allowed to speak therein for a period not to exceed 5 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I am delighted that the House of Representatives yesterday passed unanimously